

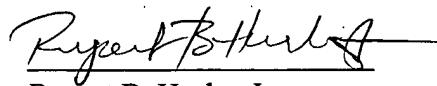
REMARKS

With the entry of the amendment above, Claims 21-23 and 25-33 are pending in the application. Claim 24 stands canceled. This amendment is being made to place the application in better form for appeal, and to eliminate issues on appeal. With the entry of the above amendment, the §112 rejection of Claim 24 is rendered moot, as are the objection to the drawings as not showing the features recited in Claim 24, and the §103 rejection of Claim 24 as unpatentable over HENAUXT in view of NISHIMOTO et al further in view of OWENSBY et al. The only remaining issues for appeal are therefore:

- (1) the §103 rejection of Claims 21, 22, 25-27, and 29-33 as unpatentable over HENAUXT in view of NISHIMOTO et al; and
- (2) the §103 rejection of Claim 23 and 28 as unpatentable over HENAUXT in view of NISHIMOTO et al further in view of OBERLE.

A Notice of Appeal is filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested, for the reasons stated above. Should there be any questions or suggestions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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November 26, 2003